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SOURCE: Newspapers as indicated.

SOME SHALE ENTERPRISES LAG;  
OTHERS REPORT SUCCESSES

The Ministry of the Shale and Chemical Industry Estonian SSR, has failed to meet the state plan for some time largely because of the unsatisfactory work of the "Kiviyli" Combine. This combine fulfilled only 83 percent of the 10-month gross production plan, and it violates the plan for assortment regularly.

One reason for the combine's backwardness is the fact that standard living conditions are not provided for the workers; this results in a high labor turnover. During a period of 9 months, 647 new workers were hired and 615 were discharged. Approximately one third of the total number of workers fail to fulfill their quotas.

Repair of equipment is carried out in a very unsatisfactory and unsystematic manner. Thirty-four electric motors are left out in the open awaiting repair. Delay in repair of ovens and electric motors causes a partial standstill of the chief installations. Capital repair is being poorly executed. (1)

The Kokhtla Shale Combine, on the other hand, reports successes. At a recent meeting prior to 30 September 1949<sup>7</sup> held by this combine it was announced that the 1949 year plan had already been fulfilled. During 1949 the achievements of this Combine have been twice rewarded with the Transferable Red Banner and monetary prizes. The 1949 output was 26 percent above that of 1948, chiefly as the result of good work organization. The relative increase in production over the same period of 1948 was 35 percent, although the number of workers is the same. (2)

The "Kyava-2" Shale Mine is the largest mine in the Estonian shale basin. (4) This mine completed the Five-Year Plan for shale mining by 30 November, that is, in 3 years and 11 months. It fulfilled the 1948 plan for mine development by Miner's Day and the 1949 year plan for shale mining by 1 November. (3)

During the postwar Five-Year plan the "Kyava-" mine has been transformed from a mine in which manual labor predominated to an outstanding, mechanized underground enterprise. It now has eight mechanized working faces, fitted out by first-class domestic mining technique. There is electric lighting at each of

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these faces. The shale is cut by cutting machines, loaded onto powerful belt and scraper conveyers, and transported by electric locomotives to the mine shaft. Labor productivity is twice that of 1945 and average shale mining per day is also twice as great. The quality of the output has improved over the same period with a lowering of the rock content from 10.6 to 6.9 percent. (4)

Other shale mines also report success. The "Kukruse" Shale Mine has already produced 60 trainloads of high-grade shale above the 1949 plan. Two new cutting machines, recently put into operation, assisted the miners in their fine achievements. Miners of the "Vivikond" Shale Mine have also fulfilled the 1949 plan and have cut approximately 14,000 tons of high-grade shale on the 1950 quota. (5)

## SOURCES

1. Sovetskaya Estoniya, No 277, 25 Nov 49
2. Kodumaa Kutse, No 2, 30 Sep 49
3. Sovetskaya Estoniya, No 289, 9 Dec 49
4. Sovetskaya Estoniya, No 286, 5 Dec 49
5. Sovetskaya Estoniya, No 285, 4 Dec 49

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